

DISPATCH

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PROCESSING ACTION

TO Chief, WH Division

INFO

FROM Chief of Station, Mexico City **per CSN 43-43**

SUBJECT LIFEAT Progress Report/July 1963

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ACTION REQUIRED - REFERENCES

Ref: HMMA 21755

1. The following report is submitted in accordance with CSFHB-F 52-6-1, section V, paragraph 2 (d) (1).

A. EXPLOITATION OF LEADS

(1) LIFEAT/Soviet LIFEAT has continued its daily coverage of the home phones of two known Soviet Intelligence Officers. This has enabled the interested Station officer to monitor the daily activities of these officers including clandestine contacts of one and lately the apparent involvement of the other in an affair with the wife of another Soviet official stationed in Mexico.

(2) LIFEAT/Polish During the final weeks of BEKNAVE's stay in Mexico, LIFEAT provided continuing support to the attempted approach to BEKNAVE. This support included periods of "live-monitoring" the target lines to give early warning of BEKNAVE's exact departure plans as well as the movements of BEKNAVE. LIFEAT also initiated coverage of the Polish Commercial Office in support of the interested Station officer's attempt to gain more information on that installation and the personnel assigned thereto.

(3) LIFEAT/Cuban LIFEAT coverage of two targets related to the AMSTRUT operation are of great interest to JMWAVE and Headquarters. Copies of the processed take from these lines are forwarded weekly to these customers. A recent and excellent roundup of AMSTRUT-8 done by Headquarters drew heavily on LIFEAT provided information. This roundup was very well done and greatly appreciated by the Station. During the reporting period nothing of interest was obtained from the coverage of the home of a Cuban Commercial Attache and it is planned to cut this coverage in the near future if it remains unproductive.

(4) LIFEAT/Exile LIFEAT coverage of ESLARD-1 continues to be of interest to both the Station, Headquarters and other Stations who are connected with ESLARD-1's activities. Information concerning ESLARD-1's planned travel to both Central America and PBPRIME was fully reported from this coverage. LIFEAT information enables the Station to provide timely physical surveillance of ESLARD-1 which should give information of his exact departure date and mode of travel.

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CONTINUATION OF
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LIFEAT continued coverage of Judith FERRETO Segura has provided a number of leads for possible agent candidates to assess and develop this Costa Rican Communist exile.

(5) LIFEAT/American Communist Group in Mexico (ACGM)

The information provided to the local ODENVY office from the coverage of David DRUCKER and Charles SMALL (SMOLIKOFF) is most useful to that office for covering American leftists and Communists who travel to Mexico. Often these travellers continue on to Cuba. Their contacts with members of ACGM are of special interest to ODENVY.

(6) LIFEAT/Miscellaneous

As noted in reference the coverage of a former SMOTH agent is of interest to Headquarters, SMOTH and the senior ODYOKE official in Mexico. Recent information from this coverage indicates that this individual is continuing in his literary efforts against PBPRIME interest.

LIFEAT, at Headquarters request, has undertaken coverage of two targets of ZRKNICK interest. Although the coverage has not as yet been of sufficient duration to judge the take definitively, one of these coverages appears to have potential in providing information of interest.

B. PROCESSING OF TAKE

Processing workload of the LIFEAT processor/translator staff remains heavy, but no backlog has developed. With the recruitment of LIFEUD-28, there will be a possible more equitable division of the work for the noted staff.

C. PERSONNEL

LIFEUD-28 was granted a POA on 8 July 1963. This agent candidate is presently being assessed. PRQ Part II will be forwarded at the earliest possible date.

LIFEUD-1 has initiated attempts to expand his commission for investigating administrative personnel of the telephone company (see paragraph 2 of reference) to include all company technical personnel as well. This would give L-1 the access to the telephone centrals he previously enjoyed as an "employee of confidence". Even with the presently reduced access, LIFEUD-1 has continued to make a substantial contribution to the success of the LIFEAT operation.

D. LIAISON

No change from conditions noted in reference.

E. SECURITY

As noted in reference LIFEAT access to the telephone centrals has been reduced by the combination of LIFEUD-1's "retirement" and the new "work order" system being implemented by the telephone company. As of the present LIFEAT has not been adversely effected in any particular incident by the loss of LIFEUD-1's "protection" of the LIFEAT linemen although this constitutes a continuing danger to the operation. LIFEUD-1 is working toward regaining the access he previously enjoyed. If he is successful LIFEAT's access to the telephone centrals and partial circumvention of the "work order" system would be re-established.

Just prior to the reporting period, a telephone work crew disconnected the LIFEAT lines routing the Yugoslav Embassy tap lines to the basehouse. This was done at a point one-half mile from the basehouse and an equal distance from the target Embassy, and at a point where the tap routing was "jumped" from one telephone central's area to the central area serving the basehouse. It was assumed the telephone crew would be curious as to the nature of these unusual connections. LIFEAT linemen therefore disconnected the tap routing completely between the basehouse and the telephone work c

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Even if the crew had then attempted to checkout the routing it would have been impossible. No direct damage was done to LIFEAT as a result of this discovery but it was agreed that if possible LIENVOY should assume the Yugoslav coverage in the future. If such will not prove feasible, a cool off period will ensue prior to LIFEAT attempting to re-establish the note coverage.

F. TECHNICAL

No change from conditions noted in reference.

2. The coverage provided by LIFEAT during the reporting period tot 19 separate lines. A breakdown by target is as follows:

1. Aleksandr G. SIDOROV
2. Svyatoslav F. KUZNETSOV
3. Suspected Soviet support agent
- 4, 5, and 6. Polish Embassy and related line.
- 7, and 8. AMSTRUT operation.
9. Home of a Cuban Commercial Attache
10. Home of a Czech intelligence officer
11. and 12. Targets of ZRKNICK interest
13. and 14. ESLARD-1 and related line
15. David DRUCKER
16. Charles SMALL (SMOLIKOFF)
17. Judith FERRETO Segura
18. and 19. Former SMOTH agent and related line.

3. During the reporting period a number of memoranda were prepared the Station for passing to local ODACID and ODENVY based in whole or in on LIFEAT provided material. One HMM was provided based on LIFEAT mate (HMM-7550).

Willard C. Curtis
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